

Jimmie Davis Bridge \$\$



FRIDAY, 03 AUGUST 2012 11:55 SENATOR BARROW PEACOCK [OPINION](#) - OTHER
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Senator reports capital outlay funds for improvements



Since my campaign for Senate District 37, I have heard many comments about the Jimmie Davis Bridge's congestion, safety and appearance.

I am happy to report the first step to revamping the bridge has been achieved in capital outlay money that was obtained during the spring Legislative session. The total amount is \$10.5 million in capital outlay money and is listed in HB 2, Senate Amendment 24.

Of the amount, \$1.3 million is in Priority 2 capital outlay money designated for the painting, lighting and resurfacing of the bridge. Priority 2 general obligation bond projects are defined as for the completion of plans and specifications, land acquisition, site preparation or construction during the current fiscal year, 2012-2013.

The remaining \$9.2 million obtained is in Priority 5. That funding is for construction projects that will not require cash expenditures during the fiscal year, but for future years of construction.

With all capital outlay projects, the Bond Commission must approve the requests.

I travel over the bridge every day to my district office in Bossier City located at 1619 Jimmie Davis Highway, Bossier City, and know firsthand that the capacity of this bridge must be expanded to meet local traffic to promote economic development in the two rapidly growing areas of south Shreveport and south Bossier City to aid in commerce and residential development. For the past two quarters, Zip Code 71112, south Bossier, has shown the largest number of new voters in Senate District 37.

With such worldwide events as the Bassmaster Classic at the CenturyLink Center, it has been embarrassing for our state not to maintain a bridge named in honor of our Sunshine Governor, Jimmie Davis. It is in dire need of painting and many elderly residents are fearful to travel over the dark bridge at night. To see more pictures of the bridge, please go to my Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/SenatorBarrowPeacock.

Also of note in Bossier City, \$780,000 of capital outlay money was obtained for Highway 71 street lights. Half is in Priority 2 and half in Priority 5.

Since taking office, I have met with constituents about other transportation concerns. Here is an update:

An overlay project was let to bids on June 27 for the portion of Highway 71 between LA 612 (Sligo Road) and Louisiana 3032 (Westgate).

The project will be to mill off approximately two inches of the surface and replace it with approximately two inches of new asphaltic concrete, according to Darrell Goza, district engineer administrator for the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development.

There will be some other miscellaneous work with some catch basins and striping. The cost of the project is \$ 1.64 million.

If you have concerns about our state roads or any other matter, do not hesitate to contact me at 741-7180 or at peacockb@legis.la.gov. My office is at 1619 Jimmie Davis Highway in Bossier City.

State Senator Barrow Peacock serves District 37 which includes parts of Bossier Parish.